

Executive function – the brain's ability to access and coordinate all of its functions.

Impaired executive functions result in cognitive deficits for those with ADHD.

| Executive Function Impairment in ADHD | Purpose of Executive Functions |
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| Activation: organizing tasks and materials, estimating time, getting started. | Self-regulation (including emotions) |
| Focus: focusing, sustaining focus, and shifting focus between tasks. | Organization of behaviors across time |
| Effort: regulating alertness, sustaining effort and processing speed. | Directing behavior toward the future |
| Emotion: managing frustration and modulating emotions. | Maximization of future consequences |
| Memory: using working memory and accessing recall. | Increased control over the environment |
| Action: monitoring/ regulating actions. | Conforming the environment to self |

| List ariy or the executive functions that are difficult for you. | |
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